

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00

AGRE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /087 W

-----300053Z 047834 /62

R 281151Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7726

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EPAP, ETRD

SUBJ: ICCO HEAD URGES USG JOIN, ASKS COMMODITY POLICY CLARIFICATION

REFS: (A) STATE 64346 (NOTAL, (B) LONDON 4704 (NOTAL),

(C) 75 ACCRA 8271(NOTAL), (D) 74 ACCRA 6946(NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR URGED AMBASSADOR APRIL 27 THAT USG SHOULD JOIN,
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ORGANIZATION REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATION'S COMMODITY
POLICY, EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT COCOA PRODUCTION, AND REPORTED
\$102 MILLION IN COCOA BUFFER STOCK FUND. END SUMMARY.

2. MR. U.K. HACKMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL
COCOA ORGANIZATION (ICCO), CALLED ON AMBASSADOR APRIL 27.
THIS IS FIRST CONTACT HACKMAN HAS HAD WITH THIS EMBASSY SINCE

THOSE REPORTED REFTELS C AND D. HACKMAN, A GHANAIAN, IS COMPLETING THREE WEEKS' LEAVE HERE, AND PLANS TO RETURN TO HIS POST IN LONDON APRIL 30.

3. HACKMAN URGED USG TO JOIN ICCO AND REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF STORIES THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION REVIEWING COMMODITY POLICY GENERALLY AND COCOA SPECIFICALLY. HE SAID "SOME" HAVE IMPRESSION THAT USG LOOKING FOR A GRACEFUL WAY TO JOIN; HE SPECIFICALLY CITED IVORY COAST AS ONE HOLDING THAT VIEW. HE EMPHASIZED THAT ICCO SECRETARIAT VERY WILLING TO ENTER INTO DIALOGUE WITH USG ABOUT US JOINING AGREEMENT, THAT HE SOUGHT A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF USG POSITION, AND THAT HE OFFERED HIS SERVICES IN WHATEVER WAY HE COULD BE HELPFUL. HE REQUESTED THAT HIS VISIT AND VIEWS BE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON. HE DWELT ON DUAL PRODUCER/CONSUMER NATURE OF HIS ORGANIZATION.

4. AMBASSADOR CONFIRMED THAT ENTIRE AREA OF COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND RELATED COMMON FUND ISSUE BEING REVIEWED BY ADMINISTRATION. HE THOUGHT IT PREMATURE TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION SPECIFICALLY ON COCOA WHILE THIS REVIEW GOING ON. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT IN VIEW OF NATURE OF POLICY PROCESS IN THIS ADMINISTRATION ONE SHOULD EXPECT CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC DEBATE BEFORE A POSITION REACHED. (HACKMAN SAID HE HOPED HE COULD MAKE INPUT TO THAT DEBATE.) AMBASSADOR WENT ON TO SAY THAT USG COMMODITY EXPERTS CONTINUE TO HAVE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WITH CURRENT ICCO AGREEMENT. HE ASSURED HACKMAN HIS VIEWS WOULD BE REPORTED. HE ALSO NOTED IMPORTANCE OF GOING PLACES ON USG JOINING.

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5. HACKMAN SAYS HE WANTS INCREASED COCOA PRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY IN GHANA AND NIGERIA; HIS ORGANIZATION WILL TRY TO MONITOR EFFORTS TOWARD THAT END. HE HOPED TO TURN ATTENTION MORE FULLY TOWARD PRODUCTION LEVELS AFTER NEW ICCO PRICE RANGE AGREED IN JUNE/JULY.

6. HACKMAN MENTIONED THAT A MEMBER AT RECENT COCOA COUNCIL MEETING SUGGESTED INVITING US TO PARTICIPATE IN PRICE RANGE NEGOTIATIONS (REFTEL B), AND MADE CLEAR HE THOUGHT THIS INAPPROPRIATE SINCE US IS NON-MEMBER. ON OTHER HAND, HE WELCOMES CONTACTS HE HAS WITH AMEMBASSY LONDON AS WELL AS US PARTICIPATION IN ICCO STATISTICS COMMITTEE.

7. HACKMAN REPORTED \$102 MILLION IN ICCO BUFFER STOCK KITTY (FROM ONE CENT/LB. EXPORT LEVY) AS OF THREE WEEKS AGO. SMITH

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